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United States
Foreign Trade

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Luther H. Hodges, Secretary

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
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SUMMARY REPORT
FT 930-I

March 1963

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IMPORT TRADE BY COMMODITY

The Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, announced today that the increase in United States imports for consumption, from $1,367.0 million in February to $1,418.2 million in March, a rise of about four percent, reflected higher levels of imports of all of the economic classes of commodities, except crude foodstuffs. The March 1963 imports for consumption total was about four percent higher than the March 1962 total of $1,364.2 million.[1,2]

Imports for consumption for the first three months of 1963, valued at $3,924.4 million, were at a level about the same as the $3,928.1 million reported for the first three months of 1962.

Imports of finished manufactures rose from $491.2 million in February to $526.1 million in March reflecting small increases in imports of many of the individual items included in this economic class. The more notable of these increases were automobiles and parts, from $49.5 to $54.4 million; agricultural machinery and implements, from $15.9 to $20.4 million; and wool manufactures, from $15.2 to $18.7 million. The increase in imports of crude materials from $269.1 to $283.1 million was primarily due to increases in imports of rough or uncut diamonds, from $8.1 to $16.9 million; crude petroleum, from $79.7 to $85.6 million; and diamonds for industrial use, from $2.8 to $5.9 million. However, imports of crude rubber, also included in this economic class, dropped from $26.6 to $18.1 million.

Although the increase in imports of semimanufactures was small, from $283.6 to $292.0 million, counterbalancing changes were reported in imports of many of the individual commodities included in this economic class. Some of the more noticeable of these were iron and steel semimanufactures, from $18.7 to $24.1 million; nickel and alloys, from $15.6 to $18.0 million; and gas and fuel oil, from $63.8 to $50.4 million. Imports of manufactured foodstuffs advanced from $152.2 to $159.0 million.

During the period, imports of crude foodstuffs fell from $170.8 to $158.0 million owing chiefly to lower levels of imports of cocoa, from $20.4 to $13.1 million; coffee, from $88.4 to $83.0 million; and cattle, except for breeding, from $8.2 to $5.1 million.

[1]The Bureau of the Census does not have adequate information to measure the effect on the statistics of the dock strike which began midnight December 23, 1962 and continued through January 25, 1963.

[2]See the March 1963 issue of Report No. FT 900-I for seasonally-adjusted figures on general imports. Seasonally-adjusted data are not available for imports for consumption or on a commodity basis.

EXPLANATION OF STATISTICS

COVERAGE: Import statistics include merchandise imported by government agencies as well as by private importers, but exclude American goods returned by the United States armed forces for their own use. United States trade with Puerto Rico and United States possessions is not included in this report, but the import trade of Puerto Rico with foreign countries is included as a part of the United States import trade. Merchandise shipped in transit through the United States between foreign countries is not included in import statistics. However, the statistics may include some merchandise (principally duty-free) which is entered through United States Customs and subsequently exported in the same condition in which imported. In many cases, such merchandise differs from in transit merchandise only in the manner in which it is documented.

VALUATION: Import values are, in general, based on market price or selling price, and are, in general, f.o.b. the exporting country. Import values also exclude United States import duties. None of the values have been adjusted for changes in price level.

RELIABILITY: Monthly import statistics for individual commodities are based on full compilation of all formal entry shipments valued $100 and over (over 99 percent of total import value) and are therefore free of sampling variability. They are, however, subject to some error due to the omission of informal entry shipments (i.e. those valued under $250) and under $100 formal entry shipments from commodity statistics, and also from such sources as the carry-over of data from month to month in the compiling process and errors in the reporting or processing. Although the effect of such errors on the rounded totals in this report is probably small, the possibility of inaccuracy should be taken into account particularly in using figures of relatively small magnitude. The largest variation from rounding of figures is $50,000.

Further information regarding coverage, valuation, compilation procedures and precision of import data is contained in the foreword of Report No. FT 110. For complete statement, see foreword in Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States.

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Prepared in the Bureau of the Census, Foreign Trade Division

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UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES: MARCH 1963 AND SELECTED PERIODS

(Quantity in units indicated; value in millions of dollars. Imports for consumption are a total of imports for immediate consumption plus withdrawals for consumption from bonded warehouses. Figures for 1963 are as originally issued and have not been revised to include published corrections. Figures for 1962 include all revisions published with the December 1962 reports, but do not include revisions published during 1962. Totals represent sum of unrounded figures, hence may vary slightly from sum of rounded amounts.)

Economic class and commodity[1]		March 1963	February 1963	March 1962	Monthly average 1962
Total	value	1,418.2	1,367.0	1,364.2	[2]1,354.1
Free	value	529.6	515.3	518.2	518.0
Dutiable	value	888.6	851.7	846.0	836.1
Crude materials	value	283.1	269.1	280.4	278.5
Hides and skins	value	7.6	6.2	9.1	5.5
Undressed furs	value	8.9	8.9	10.6	8.5
Crude rubber	1,000,000 lb.	76	110	68	79
	value	18.1	26.6	16.9	19.3
Copra	1,000 lb.	31,427	27,328	63,950	59,566
	value	2.3	1.7	4.2	3.9
Tobacco, unmanufactured	1,000 lb.	13,492	13,834	13,773	13,675
	value	7.6	7.6	8.8	8.4
Cotton, unmanufactured	1,000 lb.	6,713	6,092	12,537	12,676
	value	0.7	0.6	1.1	2.5
Jute and jute butts	long tons	9,656	10,791	11,243	6,489
	value	1.8	2.0	2.4	1.1
Sisal and henequen	long tons	8,212	8,709	11,500	9,028
	value	1.8	1.6	2.0	1.6
Wool, unmanufactured, free	(1,000,000 lb.) actual weight	22	23	15	15
	clean content[3]	17	19	12	12
	value	10.9	11.6	7.6	7.4
Wool, unmanufactured, dutiable	(1,000,000 lb.) actual weight	22	27	21	16
	clean content[3]	15	19	14	11
	value	14.2	16.9	13.2	10.0
Pulpwood	1,000 cords	115	135	99	117
	value	1.7	2.1	1.6	1.9
Crude petroleum	1,000 bbl.	37,142	33,995	35,049	37,566
	value	85.6	79.7	81.5	84.4
Diamonds, rough or uncut	1,000 carats	196	140	108	118
	value	16.9	8.1	8.5	8.5
Diamonds, for industrial use	1,000 carats	1,257	688	1,655	1,023
	value	5.9	2.8	6.0	4.3
Iron ore and concentrates	1,000 long tons	1,362	1,451	2,059	2,786
	value	12.8	13.3	19.5	27.1
Ferroalloying ores	value	31.0	30.0	35.1	30.4
Copper (copper content)	1,000 lb.	3,753	2,023	5,624	3,492
	value	1.1	0.6	1.6	1.0
Lead (lead content)	1,000 lb.	5,689	7,056	11,071	22,684
	value	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.8
Tin (tin content)	long tons	...	4	670	447
	value	...	(*)	1.8	1.1
Zinc (zinc content)	1,000 lb.	38,150	34,490	71,330	75,684
	value	1.5	1.0	2.6	3.4
Other nonferrous ores and concentrates	value	7.6	9.6	9.5	10.6
All other crude materials	value	44.6	37.8	36.3	35.6
Crude foodstuffs	value	158.0	170.8	146.4	148.1
Fish and shellfish	1,000 lb.	48,589	51,803	58,105	51,461
	value	19.9	19.8	19.7	19.7
Cattle, except for breeding	thousands	67	99	97	103
	value	5.1	8.2	8.2	9.2
Grains	value	2.8	2.3	2.5	1.7
Vegetables, fresh and dried	value	8.1	11.0	8.3	3.3
Bananas[3]	1,000 bunches	...	...	...	...
	1,000 lb.	329,651	239,126	303,109	287,538
	value	7.3	5.7	6.8	6.5
Cocoa or cacao beans	1,000,000 lb.	66	105	56	53
	value	13.1	20.4	12.4	11.0
Coffee, raw or green	1,000,000 lb.	285	296	243	270
	value	83.0	88.4	74.8	82.2
Tea	1,000 lb.	14,808	12,202	10,800	10,808
	value	6.8	5.9	5.0	5.0
Black pepper, unground	1,000 lb.	5,384	2,758	2,922	3,036
	value	1.4	0.8	1.0	1.0
All other crude foodstuffs	value	10.5	8.4	7.8	8.5

See footnotes at end of table.

UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES:
MARCH 1963 AND SELECTED PERIODS—Continued

Economic class and commodity[1]		March 1963	February 1963	March 1962	Monthly average 1962
Manufactured foodstuffs	value	159.0	152.2	146.6	149.8
Meat products	value	45.9	51.8	49.5	40.1
Cheese	1,000 lb.	9,164	6,427	5,966	6,468
	value	4.0	2.7	2.9	3.0
Fish and shellfish canned, prepared, etc.	1,000 lb.	47,148	38,753	44,746	46,009
	value	13.4	11.0	13.6	13.4
Fodders and feeds	value	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.2
Cane or beet sugar	1,000,000 lb.	772	761	612	775
	value	44.1	41.7	33.6	42.4
Molasses	1,000 gal.	23,244	26,490	20,838	23,520
	value	3.8	3.4	2.5	2.6
Whisky	value	16.8	13.8	15.2	18.1
All other manufactured foodstuffs	value	29.8	26.5	27.8	28.9
Semimanufactures	value	292.0	283.6	303.7	282.7
Leather	value	5.4	4.2	4.5	4.4
Bristles	1,000 lb.	312	258	277	256
	value	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.7
Expressed oils, inedible	value	6.4	5.6	3.4	4.3
Quebracho	1,000 lb.	5,480	7,721	11,512	7,690
	value	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.5
Wool semimanufactures	value	7.3	7.7	6.5	5.3
Sawed boards, planks, deals, etc.	1,000,000 bd. ft.	423	410	400	407
	value	28.2	26.7	26.6	28.1
Wood pulp	1,000 short tons	236	226	233	232
	value	26.8	25.3	28.1	27.6
Gas and fuel oil	1,000 bbl.	28,320	30,950	26,955	22,737
	value	50.4	63.8	58.9	48.2
Asbestos[4]	short tons	55,263	41,044	56,703	52,533
	value	5.0	3.8	5.2	4.7
Diamonds, cut but not set	1,000 carats	103	83	89	82
	value	9.0	7.5	8.1	7.4
Iron and steel semimanufactures	value	24.1	18.7	19.1	19.7
Aluminum	value	10.3	11.0	11.5	14.6
Copper (copper content)	1,000,000 lb.	55	52	73	66
	value	16.7	15.7	21.7	19.8
Lead (lead content)	1,000 lb.	40,801	38,069	60,525	44,748
	value	4.0	3.4	4.9	3.9
Nickel and alloys	1,000 lb.	24,280	21,228	25,576	21,202
	value	18.0	15.6	18.6	15.4
Tin	1,000 lb.	8,880	8,235	9,513	9,004
	value	9.6	8.8	11.2	8.7
Zinc	1,000 lb.	22,911	16,111	20,606	23,127
	value	2.2	1.7	2.3	2.4
Coal-tar products	value	5.2	5.4	5.0	4.9
Industrial chemicals	value	9.6	8.2	11.5	9.8
Fertilizers and materials	1,000 short tons	201	221	204	167
	value	7.4	7.6	7.9	6.6
All other semimanufactures	value	45.1	41.7	47.4	45.9
Finished manufactures	value	526.1	491.2	487.2	495.1
Leather manufactures	value	12.6	10.2	11.7	12.5
Essential or distilled oils	value	2.5	2.6	1.4	1.9
Cotton cloth	1,000 sq. yd.	56,879	53,689	42,860	38,744
	value	11.2	11.2	8.1	7.9
Other cotton manufactures	value	15.4	17.1	16.1	15.6
Burlap	1,000 yd.	104,077	139,962	88,939	82,822
	1,000 lb.	69,015	99,112	56,059	56,010
	value	15.1	22.0	11.4	10.9
Flax, hemp and ramie manufactures	value	3.4	3.7	2.8	3.1
Wool manufactures	value	18.7	15.2	16.1	20.4
Silk manufactures	value	4.0	3.4	5.5	5.1
Shingles	1,000 squares	232	216	197	216
	value	2.3	2.1	1.7	2.0
Newsprint	1,000 short tons	347	371	439	456
	value	44.3	46.9	56.0	58.0
Other paper manufactures	value	8.3	7.7	8.4	7.3
Pottery	value	5.2	4.9	4.6	5.0

See footnotes at end of table.

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UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES: MARCH 1963 AND SELECTED PERIODS—Continued

Economic class and commodity[1]	March 1963	February 1963	March 1962	Monthly average 1962
Finished manufactures—Continued				
Steel mill products.....value..	28.6	28.3	26.9	27.7
Iron and steel advanced manufactures.....value..	13.1	12.1	13.3	12.4
Agricultural machinery and implements.....value..	20.4	15.9	14.7	12.6
Automobiles and parts.....value..	54.4	49.5	47.4	42.9
Other machinery.....value..	79.5	64.6	67.8	67.6
Vehicles, except automobiles.....value..	16.1	13.9	12.0	17.3
Photographic goods.....value..	5.3	5.2	6.5	6.3
Scientific and professional instruments.....value..	5.6	4.6	4.3	4.6
Musical instruments and parts.....value..	2.4	2.1	2.5	2.4
Toys and sporting goods.....value..	7.2	6.4	6.4	7.4
Watches and watch movements, except parts.....value..	4.3	3.8	4.2	4.8
American goods returned.....value..	27.6	19.5	23.0	22.3
All other finished manufactures.....value..	107.1	105.2	104.7	105.7
Estimated value $1-$99 formal and $1-$250 informal entry shipments[4].....value..	11.6	12.9	9.7	[2]11.6

[1] Based on commodity classifications in Schedule A, Statistical Classification of Commodities Imported into the United States. A Supplement to Report No. FT 930-I showing the Schedule A numbers included in the individual economic class and commodity totals is available on request. [2] Excludes February 1962 data on $1-$99 formal and $1-$250 informal shipments which are estimated as totaling about $9.7 million. As indicated in the February 1962 issue of this report, data on these shipments are also excluded from other reports such as FT 950-I, FT 110, FT 120, IM 145, etc. [3] Includes the actual weight of carbonized wool. [4] This estimate is subject to a sampling variation of about 3 percent of the estimated value shown. For an explanation of the sampling procedures used in estimating, see foreword of Report No. FT 110.